

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
identifying a component included in a cable modem;
obtaining parameter information comprising power characteristics of the component from nonvolatile memory;
configuring the operating system running on the cable modem to operate the component and report power characteristics to an upstream device;
obtaining parameter information comprising power characteristics of a replacement component for the cable modem, the power characteristics obtained from nonvolatile memory;
configuring the operating system to operate the replacement component and report power characteristics from the cable modem to the upstream device.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the operating system is a cable modem operating system.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the component is a tuner.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein operating the component comprises varying RF transmission power.
5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein parameter information comprises IF output information.
6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein parameter information comprises band crossover frequency information.
7. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein parameter information comprises IF AGC Gain Threshold information.
8. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein parameter information comprises RF AGC Gain Threshold information.
9. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein parameter information comprises component address information.
10. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
means for identifying a component included in a cable modem;
means for obtaining parameter information comprising power characteristics of the component from nonvolatile memory;
means for configuring the operating system running on the cable modem to operate the component and report power characteristics to an upstream device;

means for obtaining parameter information comprising power characteristics of a replacement component for the cable modem, the power characteristics obtained from nonvolatile memory;

means for configuring the operating system to operate the replacement component and report power characteristics from the cable modem to the upstream device.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the component is a cable modem tuner.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein operating the component comprises varying RF transmission power.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein parameter information comprises IF output information.

14. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein parameter information comprises band crossover frequency information.

15. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein parameter information comprises IF AGC Gain Threshold information.

16. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein parameter information comprises RF AGC Gain Threshold information.

17. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein parameter information comprises component address information.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having computer code embodied therein, the computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~, comprising:

computer code for identifying a component included in a cable modem;

computer code for obtaining parameter information comprising power characteristics of the component from nonvolatile memory;

computer code for configuring the operating system running on the cable modem to operate the component and report power characteristics to an upstream device;

computer code for obtaining parameter information comprising power characteristics of a replacement component for the cable modem, the power characteristics obtained from nonvolatile memory;

computer code for configuring the operating system to operate the replacement component and report power characteristics from the cable modem to the upstream device.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 18, wherein the operating system is a cable modem operating system.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 19, wherein the component is a tuner.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 20, wherein operating the component comprises varying RF transmission power.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 20, wherein parameter information comprises IF output information.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 20, wherein parameter information comprises band crossover frequency information.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 20, wherein parameter information comprises IF AGC Gain Threshold information.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 20, wherein parameter information comprises RF AGC Gain Threshold information.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium ~~program product~~ of claim 20, wherein parameter information comprises component address information.

27. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
obtaining parameter information associated with a tuner in a cable modem from a nonvolatile memory;
characterizing the tuner using the parameter information, wherein the characterization allows the cable modem operating system running on the cable modem to account for power characteristics and drive the tuner to transmit at a desired power level;-
obtaining parameter information associated with a replacement tuner for the cable modem from the nonvolatile memory;
characterizing the tuner using the parameter information, wherein the characterization allows the cable modem operating system to account for power characteristics and drive the replacement tuner to transmit at a desired power level from the cable modem.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the nonvolatile memory is flash memory.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the tuner is a cable modem RF tuner.

30. (Currently Amended) A cable modem comprising:
a tuner;
a nonvolatile memory operable to store power characteristics associated with the tuner;
a volatile memory operable to temporarily maintain power characteristics;

a processor operable to run a cable modem operating system, wherein the cable modem operating system uses the power characteristics to drive the tuner to transmit at a desired power level, wherein the operating system accesses nonvolatile memory to obtain power characteristics to drive a replacement tuner when a replacement tuner is installed.

31. (Previously Presented) The cable modem of claim 30, wherein the nonvolatile memory is flash memory.

32. (Previously Presented) The cable modem of claim 31, wherein the tuner is a cable modem RF tuner.

33-40. (Canceled)